

Application No.: 09/757457

Docket No.: QP5031USNA

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Amendments to Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A filament comprising:

a synthetic melt spun polymer including a plurality of polymer chains having the structural formula:

~~polyamide repeating units and functional amino compounds (R_1);~~
~~polyamide chain extender moieties (R_2), each independently selected from the group consisting of bis-N-acyl bislactam moieties; and~~
~~terminal groups (R_3) comprising at least one of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;~~
~~the polymer including chains, each independently having a chemical structure:~~



wherein

R_1 independently comprises polyamide repeating units and at least one of diamine and triamine units;

R_2 independently comprises a bis-N-acyl bislactam moiety;

R_3 comprises at least one of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;

and

wherein y is an integer of 1-14, wherein [[: and]]

the filament has a formic acid relative viscosity of at least about 30.

13. (Currently amended) The filament of claim 12 wherein R_1 independently comprises the polyamide repeating units (R_1), each independently, are selected from the group consisting of (i) $[-CO(CH_2)_k-CONH-(CH_2)_mNH-]_n$, where k and m, each independently, is an integer of 1-12, and n is an integer of 10-140, and (ii) $[NH(CH_2)_x-CO_2]_z$, where x is an integer of 1-12 and z is an integer of 20-280.

14. (Cancelled)

currently amended

15. (Cancelled) The filament of claim 10 ~~12~~ wherein the ~~functionalized chain extender~~ bis-N-acyl bislactam moieties, each independently, are selected from the group consisting of bis-N-acyl bis-caprolactam moieties.

16. (currently amended) The filament of claim 15, wherein the ~~chain extender~~ bis-N-acyl bis-caprolactam moieties, each independently, are selected from the group consisting of an isophthaloyl bis-caprolactam moiety, an adipoyl bis-caprolactam

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